Middle School Building at Halekote

448. Sri H. D. DEVE GOWDA (Holenarsipur).—

Will the Minister for Agriculture and Education be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether the estimate for reconstructing the existing country tiled dilapidated Middle School Building at Halekote, Holenarsipur, was countersigned by the Education Department and the tenders were called for by the Executive Engineer, P.W.D., Hassan ;

(*b*) if so, when was the estimate countersigned by the Education Department and when the tenders were called by the P.W.D. ;

(*c*) the reason for not executing even though all the necessary formalities were observed ;

(*d*) will the Government complete the work this year at least ?

A.—Sri K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA (Minister for Agriculture and Education).—

(*a*) and (*b*) Yes.

An estimate for Rs. 20,000 was countersigned during the year 1964-65. As it provided for rates of 1961-62 it had to be recast for Rs. 26,400 and tenders were called for by the Executive Engineer, Hassan, during the year 1966.

(*c*) The necessary formalities have yet to be observed.

(*d*) The construction, maintenance and repairs of buildings in rural areas for Government Primary Schools, including Higher Primary Schools, is the statutory responsibility of the Taluka Boards concerned as per the Mysore Village Panchayats and Local Boards Act, 1959. The Director of Public Instruction has been asked to take up the question with the Taluk Board, Holenarsipur and have it expedited.

Tour of the Minister for Public Works

454. Sri SHARANAGOWDA (Jewargi).—

Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the number of times the Minister for Public Works was out of headquarters on duty during the period from 1st April 1967 to 29th February 1968 ;

(*b*) the number of times the Minister was in Gulbarga District ;

(*c*) the total expenditure incurred by way of T.A. and D.A. ;

(*d*) whether the Minister during his visits to Gulbarga stayed in Government Guest House, if so, whether he has paid the prescribed rent ?

A.—Sri S. NIJALINGAPPA (Chief Minister).—

(*a*) 41 times.
(*b*) 8 times.
(*c*) Rs. 2,150.07.
(*d*) Yes.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE *re*: DISTURBANCES IN BIDAR DURING HOLI FESTIVAL DAY

Sri G. CHANDRAKANTH (Bidar).—I beg to call the attention of Minister for Home and Municipal Administration to the disturbances in Bidar during Holi Festival day.

Sri R. M. PATIL (Minister for Home and Municipal Administration).—I have to state that it is reported that on 15th March 1968, in Bidar Town, a procession was taken out in connection with the Holi Festival, after obtaining the necessary permission. The Police had made elaborate arrangements, as usual. When the procession was moving, some persons are said to have indulged in throwing colour at others. This created some commotion and a mob gathered. The Assistant Superintendent of Police, accompanied by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and the police party, rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

In another locality there was a similar incident of throwing colour and the people there indulged in pelting stones at one another. The Superintendent of Police, the Assistant Superintendent of Police and the Sub-Divisional Magistrate promptly intervened and dispersed the mob. But a few miscreants in the crowd shouted anti-national slogans, and the intensity of stone throwing increased. The police had to bring the situation under control by resorting to lathi charge and the use of tear gas.

In the meantime, when the procession had moved further, there was stone throwing from house tops and lanes and this created a tension. The police dispersed the mob by bursting tear-gas shells.

An attempt to set fire to a few logs of wood was also foiled by the police. Although the situation was well under control, there was apprehension of trouble, since tension was brewing. As a measure of precaution, the services of the local Air Force were requisitioned and they were posted at strategic points.

In this incident the total damage caused to nine shops is about Rs. 260. Twelve persons sustained injuries out of whom nine persons were treated in the Civil Hospital as out-patients and the remaining three were admitted as in-patients. Three policemen sustained minor injuries.